

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 NSC-06 AID-01 SS-07 SSO-00 /024 R

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O R 272006Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY DOHA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 122741

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SENATOR FULBRIGHT)

SUBJECT: ARAB LEAGUE INVITATION TO SENATOR FULBRIGHT

REF: (A) CAIRO 5066; (B) CAIRO 5164

1. SENATOR FULBRIGHT CONTACTED DEPARTMENT MAY 27 TO EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT THE WAY HIS ARAB LEAGUE SPONSORED VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST IS SHAPING UP. FULBRIGHT WAS ESPECIALLY CONCERNED TO LEARN FROM ARAB LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE IN WASHINGTON (HASAN) THAT MEETING WITH SADAT COULD ONLY TAKE PLACE DURING SUEZ CANAL OPENING CEREMONIES AND THAT THERE MIGHT NOT BE OPPORTUNITY FOR MORE THAN EXCHANGE OF PLEASANTRIES. FULBRIGHT'S PURPOSE FOR GOING TO EGYPT IS TO MEET WITH SADAT FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION. HE WOULD, THEREFORE, MUCH PREFER TO HAVE A SHORT STAY IN EGYPT AT A

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TIME WHEN SADAT IS NOT PRE-OCCUPIED WITH SUEZ CANAL CERE-

MONIES.

2. FULBRIGHT WOULD LIKE EMBASSY TO CONTACT ARAB LEAGUE OFFICE IN CAIRO AND PROPOSE THAT STOP IN CAIRO BE MADE AT END OF TOUR. SENATOR WOULD PREFER TO LEAVE U.S. ON JUNE 1 AND GO DIRECTLY TO JIDDA FOR TWO DAYS (JUNE 2-3), FOLLOWED BY ONE DAY STOP IN RIYADH (JUNE 4). SENATOR WOULD THEN LIKE TO FLY TO ABU DHABI (JUNE 5) AND QATAR (JUNE 6) FOR

ONE DAY AT EACH STOP. SINCE FULBRIGHT HAS NOT BEEN TO EITHER BAGHDAD OR DAMASCUS HE WOULD LIKE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND TWO DAYS IN EACH CAPITAL (JUNE 7-10) FOLLOWED BY A ONE DAY STOP IN BEIRUT (JUNE 11) BEFORE GOING TO CAIRO FOR A MEETING WITH SADAT (O/A JUNE 12). FULBRIGHT HAS BEEN TO EGYPT AND DOES NOT FEEL NEED FOR LONGER STAY IN CAIRO THAN NECESSARY FOR MEETING WITH SADAT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS.

3. EXACT ITINERARY, OF COURSE, WILL BE DEPENDENT UPON AIRLINE SCHEDULES, BUT FULBRIGHT FEELS ABOVE ITINERARY IS PREFERABLE TO LONGER ITINERARY TENTATIVELY WORKED OUT BY ARAB LEAGUE (REFTEL). FULBRIGHT IS ALSO ASSUMING THAT AS HOSTING ORGANIZATION, ARAB LEAGUE WILL MAKE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AND COVER THE COSTS.

4. FULBRIGHT WOULD LIKE ARAB LEAGUE REACTION TO HIS PROPOSED SCHEDULE AND CONFIRMATION ON ARAB LEAGUE FUNDING FOR VISIT. WOULD APPRECIATE RESPONSE BY COB MAY 28 IF POSSIBLE. INGERSOLL

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